

MAR-26-02 TUE 10:30

JOHN W HATHAWAY PLLC

FAX NO. 2648144

P. 20/26

APPENDIX B

Interview with Examiner Mar dated November 2, 1998

Interview SummaryApplication No.
08/896,514Applicant(s)
Conrad O. GardnerExaminer
Michael MarGroup Art Unit
3611

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Michael Mar

(3) _____

(2) Conrad Gardner

(4) _____

Date of Interview Nov 2, 1998Type: ☐ Telephonic ☒ Personal (copy is given to ☒ applicant ☐ applicant's representative).Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: ☐ Yes ☒ No. If yes, brief description:Agreement ☐ was reached. ☒ was not reached.Claim(s) discussed: 46 and 50

Identification of prior art discussed:

Description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

A claim defining the cruise mode operation and the hybrid vehicle together with a terminal disclaimer would be allowable.The other claims will be reviewed subject to an updated search.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments, if available, which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments which would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

- 1.
- ☐
- It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

Unless the paragraph above has been checked to indicate to the contrary, A FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION IS NOT WAIVED AND MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a response to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW.

- 2.
- ☐
- Since the Examiner's Interview summary above (including any attachments) reflects a complete response to each of the objections, rejections and requirements that may be present in the last Office action, and since the claims are now allowable, this completed form is considered to fulfill the response requirements of the last Office action. Applicant is not relieved from providing a separate record of the interview unless box 1 above is also checked.

Michael Mar

Examiner Note: You must sign and stamp this form unless it is an attachment to a signed Office action.

In combination in a motor vehicle having a pair of wheels at one end of the vehicle and a pair of wheels at an opposite end of the vehicle:

an electric motor for powering one of said pair of wheels;

a low power combustion engine for powering one of said pair of wheels;

a battery for storing electrical energy; and

a cruise mode control having preprogrammed cruise mode operating conditions which includes a vehicle operating speed exceeding a predetermined level and for a predetermined time interval, said control circuit automatically coupling said electric motor to one of said pair of wheels when said cruise mode operating conditions have not been satisfied, coupling said combustion engine to one of said pair of wheels when said cruise mode operating conditions have been satisfied, and decoupling said combustion engine from said one pair of wheels when said cruise mode operating conditions have not been satisfied;

said cruise mode control circuit adapted to maintain said combustion engine in a constant on mode, to couple said combustion engine to an electric power generator for charging said battery when said cruise mode conditions have not been satisfied, and to decouple said combustion engine from said electric power generator when said cruise mode conditions have been satisfied.